



COAL MINERS TO STRIKE

Union Rejects the Operators Proposition.

TO RAISE STRIKE FUND

Refusal to Sign Agreement Will Result in Monster Strike.

OPERATORS WILL NOT RECEDE

Joint Conference Scheduled for Today is Only Hope of Settling Strike—Miners Must Raise \$6,000,000 to Use in Prosecuting Strike.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 1.—The rejection of the counter proposition offered by the coal operators of the central competitive district by almost unanimous vote of the miners, and the adoption of a resolution offered by Secretary Ryan of Illinois, placing the miners on record as a unit in refusing to sign an agreement for any district until the agreement was signed for all the districts under jurisdiction of the United Mineworkers created a situation which, in the opinion of the officials and miners in the organization will result in a disruption of the joint agreement and probably end in one of the greatest strikes of organized labor ever known. Immediately following the rejection of the operators proposition, the miners convention set about to provide means for accumulating a strike fund of \$6,000,000 in addition to a like amount which the miners organization already has.

The miners' convention then adjourned till tomorrow. A joint conference scheduled for 9 o'clock tomorrow morning is the only hope of a settlement of the strike. F. F. Robbins of the Pittsburgh Coal Company said tonight the operators would not recede from the ultimatum delivered this afternoon.

SWIFT ON STAND.

Eward F. Swift Testifies in Packers' Investigation.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—Edward F. Swift occupied most of the day in the Packers' trial. The witness positively declared Commissioner Garfield had given all the information he asked for, but several times admitted he could not tell whether specific information had been given the governments agents or not. Swift testified he did not know whether he was a stockholder in the Kenwood Company, one of the concerns the government declares, was formed by the Packers to enable them to control the output of byproducts. The other testimony introduced was unimportant.

FRENCH CHURCH OPPOSES APPRAISING PROPERTY

PARIS, Feb. 1.—Everywhere in France the actual putting into operation of the clause of the church and state separation bill providing for making inventories of church property has aroused a storm of protest. In several provincial parishes, the Catholics gathered in the churches and made so strong a resistance to the government commissioners that they were unable to enter the edifices. In Paris today violent scenes took

EVASD STATUTE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—William J. Woodside and R. E. S. Desmet were convicted tonight of evading the federal statute in fitting out the ship Carmencita on an illegal sailing expedition.

ACQUITTED OF MURDER.

DUBUQUE, Feb. 1.—W. Clark was acquitted by a jury today of the murder of Leroy Sumner, whom he found with his wife. A plea of temporary insanity was made, but the real plea was defense of the home.

FORBID SWEARING.

St. Louis Police Force Not Allowed to Use Bad Language.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 1.—Recently the board of police commissioners issued an order prohibiting the policemen from swearing while on duty, and tonight Chief of Police Kiehl issued an order that policemen shall arrest all persons who may be heard using profane language on the streets and in public places. After the place boards order was issued one patrolman swore and was fined \$10.

SENATE PASSES BILLS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Senate today passed about thirty-five miscellaneous bills and gave several hours to the consideration of the shipping bill. One bill provided for a Congressional delegate from Alaska.

HEROIC FIGHT MADE

Fireman and Crew Fight Bravely Flames on Meade.

DASTARDLY PLOT SUSPECTED

Officials Are Working on the Theory That Fire in Big Transport Originated From Infernal Machine—Three Killed and Fifty-eight Injured.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—Three dead and fifty eight injured, mostly by suffocation is the record of a fire that raged on the transport Meade this morning. For three hours after midnight the forward hold of the big troopship was a roaring furnace. Tons of high explosive were loaded in the after part of the vessel and the heroic fire-fighters worked with the possibility ever before them that the flames would reach this compartment and cause an explosion that would have shaken the whole city and from which no man on board would have escaped. Owing to the probability of the fact that an infernal machine was found in the bunkers of the transport Thomas on her last voyage, the rumor was circulated of a plot laid to fire the Meade at sea, as she was to have departed for Manila today. Major Devol, chief of the transport service is investigating this theory with the greatest care. He is having the cargo taken from the compartment where the fire started with a view of discovering the real cause of the disaster. Dock Captain Dunn gave it as his opinion that some officers packed matches in their

BUNKER GIVES DRAMATIC ACCOUNT OF WRECK

BREAKS DOWN IN THE MIDST OF HIS STORY

Relates Vivid Description of the Valencia Disaster—States There Was Lack of Discipline Among Crew—Audience Moved to Tears.

SECRETARY METCALF ORDERS A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION

PILOT OF STEAMER QUEEN TESTIFIES BEFORE BOARD OF INQUIRY THAT THE SHIP WENT WITHIN HALF MILE OF VALENCIA, BUT WAS TOO ROUGH TO LOWER A BOAT—BUNKER GIVES A CLEAR ACCOUNT OF DISASTER—WILL INVESTIGATE CIRCUMSTANCES

SEATTLE, Feb. 1.—At the Valencia inquiry today Pilot Beecher who was in charge of the Queen on the day she went to locate the wrecked craft, testified he went within half a mile of the wreck. When the water shoaled to 8 fathoms he thought that too close for the heavy sea and got out. The witness stated Captain Cousins, Captains Langley, Cox, Irving and himself discussed the advisability of lowering a boat. They came to the decision that it was impossible to get any boat they had away from the side of the vessel. The witness did not think the tug Cesar went in as close as possible. He testified he did not go close enough to ascertain whether life was on her. The witness thought a regulation life saving boat could have rendered valuable assistance.

Bunker Testifies.

F. F. Bunker, assistant superintendent of the Seattle schools, whose heroic conduct has been widely noted, was the next witness. Bunker recounted in vivid language the awful events of the night of the wreck. He told of taking his place with his wife and two children in the ill-fated life boat, of its capsizing, of regaining the boat to find his wife and one child in it, of the manner it was dashed on the rocks and the loss of his loved ones, and after regaining consciousness of finding the other survivors and their perilous trip to the telegraph hut. In answer to questions he mentioned the lack of discipline after the ship struck, the confusion of orders and the fact that no officer was sent out with the life boat.

Affecting Scene.

A dramatic scene occurred when Bunker alluded to the charge that he refused to go back to the wreck. He had previously described the crippled condition of his companions and stated it would have been a physical impossibility for him to have returned to the vessel although a robust man. He related his acts after the wreck including his search for the dead and was in the act of stating his dread at finding the mangled bodies of his family when he broke down. Tears glistened in the eyes of his hearers and Captain Turner said: "Mr. Bunker, my opinion of this matter has changed materially since I have heard your statement." The inspectors

trunks and they were ignited in loading.

The vessel was not seriously injured and will be ready to sail on Saturday.

A surprising fact developed late today that the property loss amounted to only \$33. This was Devol's estimate. When the water was pumped from the hold and the debris removed, it was found the fire had been confined to a space about six feet square. There was very little flame, the fire being of a smothering nature, which emitted a great volume of smoke. Investigation showed the officers efforts to be safe. It is believed by some officials the fire originated in spontaneous combustion of gun oil and cotton. A board of inquiry has

and others present shook hands with the witness at the conclusion of the hearing and extended their sympathy to him.

Bodies Scattering.

VICTORIA, Feb. 1.—The bodies of the victims of the Valencia disaster are beginning to scatter, the last recovered was picked up in west Barclay Sound, thirty-five miles from the wreck. Twenty-two bodies are recovered to date. As an incentive to the Indians, a reward of \$10 is offered by the Provincial Government for each body found.

Government to Investigate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Secretary Metcalf, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, late this afternoon ordered a thorough and searching investigation of the Valencia wreck off Vancouver Island, and the conduct of officers and crew of that steamship as well as of the officers of the steamers Topeka and Queen, which went to the assistance of the disabled vessel.

The order is contained in the following telegram sent by him to the local inspectors of the steamship inspectors service at Seattle: "Make a thorough and searching investigation of the conduct of the officers of the steamers Topeka and Queen, pursuant to section 4450, Revised Statutes. Also investigate all causes of the wreck, the loss of life and any misconduct or neglect on the part of any connected therewith. Give public hearings, and take the testimony of all available survivors of the Valencia and of any witness who may desire to be heard. Your investigation must be thorough and complete, and your report, with all evidence, forwarded to the department. Also forward me immediately full preliminary reports of facts as now understood."

The Secretary's action is based on information received by him that this investigation should be ordered at once. When the report called for reaches here it will be immediately turned over to a special committee, consisting of Assistant Secretary Murray, Supervising Inspector-General Uhler and Herbert Knox Smith, Deputy Commissioner of Corporations. These three officers were members of the commission which investigated the Slocum disaster.

been appointed to consist of Captain Simpson, Captain Williams and Lieutenant Campbell.

MRS. YERKES SILENT.

Widow of Late Millionaire Neither Affirms Nor Denies Marriage.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—No statement from Mrs. Yerkes was obtained here today as to whether she had been married to Wilson Mizner. The Rev. Andrew Gillies, of St. Andrews' Methodist Episcopal Church, however, declared that he performed the ceremony and Wilson Mizner was quoted today as confirming the news of the marriage.

TRAIN DITCHED.

Rails Spread and All Cars Are Thrown From Track.

GREAT FALLS, Feb. 1.—A special to the Tribune from Williston, North Dakota, says: "The Great Northern east-bound passenger train was wrecked a few miles from Towner this morning by spreading of the rails. The engine passed over, but every car was ditched. It is said every car turned completely over and the smoker turned over three times. No one was fatally injured but sixteen were more or less hurt. Passengers on the train relate thrilling experiences."

INSURANCE CONVENTION.

National Insurance Convention Is Now in Session.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—Four Governors, the Representatives of thirty-two States, the members of the State Commissioners conference on uniform legislation, and the representatives of the National Underwriters' Association were recognized as duly accredited delegates to the National Insurance Convention called at the instance of President Roosevelt. The discussion of the deferred dividend system of life insurance occupied the delegates attention. This topic and a number of others were referred to a committee later in the day.

FUNERAL OF KING.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 1.—It is now said the funeral of King Christian will take place on February 14 or 15.

PROSECUTE HERMAN

Heney Promises President to Prosecute Oregon Congressman.

HIS STAR WITNESSES GONE

Heney Says That Notwithstanding Absence of Puter, McKinley, and Emma Watson, He Will Be Able to Put Up a Strong Case.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—Francis J. Heney, former United States District Attorney of Oregon and special assistant to the United States Attorney-General, who recently returned from Washington, D. C., where he conferred with the President and Attorney-General on land fraud matters, save that he has promised the President to prosecute Congressman Binger Herman, of Oregon, at both Portland and Washington, and to finish all the pending land fraud cases in Portland and the Hyde and Benson case in Washington.

Regarding the star witnesses for the prosecution in Heney's land fraud cases, who disappeared from Portland, viz., S. A. D. Puter, Horace G. McKinley, Marie Ware McKinley and Emma L. Watson, Mr. Heney said today: "I can get along without these people in probably every pending case except one. But I believe we will locate most of them. I know where Marie Ware McKinley is. She is in San Francisco, and I have every reason to believe does not intend to refuse to be a witness again. I have understood that Horace G. McKinley has gone to the orient, deserting his wife."

RAILROAD RATE BILL DISCUSSED WITH VIGOR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The discussion of the railroad rate bill was pushed with vigor in the House today. So many speakers have come to the front on the measure, that the House will meet at 11 o'clock hereafter until the debate is finished. The feature of the debate today was a lengthy speech by Sibley, of Pennsylvania, in opposition to the bill. When he charged such legislation to be socialistic and a step to-

VLADIVOSTOK MOURNS

Impressive Services for Murdered Men Held.

HUNDREDS WOUNDED

Fighting Lasted Two Days When the Cossacks Were Removed.

CITY HAS QUIETED DOWN

Terrible Fighting Occurs Between the Cossacks and Volunteers—Authorities Remove Cossacks and Place Volunteers on Guard—Red Flags in Evidence

VLADIVOSTOK, Feb. 1.—The funerals of thirty-two men killed by machine guns on January twenty-third were held today. The cannon on Tiger Hill thundered a salute while the chorus composed of soldiers chanted dirges. Two immense processions composed of soldiers, sailors and civilians carrying red flags and singing revolutionary songs escorted the bodies to the cemetery. The coffins were covered with wreaths bearing inscriptions as "To the Eternal Memory of Martyrs and to the Eternal Shame of their Assassins." In addition to the men killed on January twenty-third, 400 were wounded. The fighting continued two days after that until the commandant agreed to remove the Cossacks and release the prisoners. Next day a proclamation was issued stating that volunteers instead of Cossacks were guarding the city, and commanded fighting to cease and order to prevail. The city then calmed down.

The reason for the obstinate and mysterious silence in the dispatches from Vladivostok with the regard to the supposed termination of the mutiny intimated in General Linevitch's laconic dispatch of January twenty-eighth saying: "The city is quiet, and the mutinous sailors are disarmed," is explained tonight in the Vladivostok dispatch which serves to relate the actual condition in the fortress. Instead of the mutiny being crushed a tacit armed truce exists, conditioned on the removal of the Cossacks from the city. Trouble is likely to flare until the emperor answers the petition to St. Petersburg praying for amnesty to the mutineers if they voluntarily return to duty.

TOGO TO AMERICA.

Will Visited America in April With Two Armoured Cruisers.

TOKIO, Feb. 1.—It is announced upon reliable authority that Admiral Togo will visit America in April with two armoured cruisers.

ward government ownership and the dream of Bryan and Hearst. James, of Kentucky, asked the reason for the right about face of the Republican party in the direction of Bryan leadership. "I will gracefully place the responsibility on my colleagues of broader shoulders," retorted Sibley. Knapp, of New York; Shackelford, of Missouri, and Hedin, of Alabama, spoke for the measures.